

CLAIMS

1. A tracheostomy device characterized by its attractive aesthetic appearance and low profile adapted to be mounted on a tracheostomy pipe outer end, in combination, a low profile housing mounted upon the pipe outer end having an inlet port in communication with a check valve, a check valve and an outlet port in communication with said check valve and the pipe outer end, and a decorative cover mounted upon the housing substantially enclosing said housing and giving said housing the appearance of neck jewelry.

2. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, said housing being removably attached to the pipe outer end.

3. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, said housing having an outer threaded periphery, said decorative cover being threaded upon said housing threaded periphery.

4. A tracheostomy device as in claim 1, said check valve comprising a substantially flat flexible element.

5. A tracheostomy device as in claim 4, said check valve comprising a substantially flat flap flexible element hinged to said housing.

6. A tracheostomy device as in claim 4, said housing having a central axis, said check valve element having an axis parallel to said housing central axis and offset with respect thereto.

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12. A tracheostomy device as in claim 8, said housing having a circular threaded periphery, said decorative cover having an internally threaded lip cooperating with said housing periphery threads and a base extending between said lip.

13. A tracheostomy device as in claim 11, said base having an outer surface and decorations defined on said base outer surface.

14. A tracheostomy device as in claim 9, the visible dimension of said valve housing being approximately the same as the diameter of the pipe opening.

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